

# MANUFACTURING EXTENSION PARTNERSHIP

## Success Stories from the Field

### n-th Degree Mobility

#### Nevada Industry Excellence

#### Nevada Industry Excellence Helps Nth Degree Grow Through Inventory Management

##### Client Profile:

Located in Mound House, Nevada, Nth Degree Mobility designs and manufactures aftermarket off-road products. The company, founded in 2003, employs 11 people.

##### Situation:

Nth Degree started out with a few product offerings, and inventory was managed manually. As the company grew, owners Jim and Nicole Frens saw the need to change the way they were ordering and managing their inventory. The company was faced with an increase in the number of component parts they needed to plan, purchase, and store. The manual process combined with the new products was causing problems with inventory levels. Nth Degree Mobility contacted Nevada Industry Excellence (formerly the Nevada Management Assistance Partnership), a NIST MEP network affiliate, for help.

##### Solution:

Nevada Industry Excellence initially brought in an outside consultant, Jim Tarr, to help with some of the planning, procurement, and storage issues Nth Degree was facing. Mr Tarr assisted in two projects to help with ordering and storage. The first project was to separate the hardware and "C - Item" components from the fabricated parts and put them on a two bin replenishment system that reduced the need to plan these items separately. The second project was to assist in putting together a location system so that parts could be stored and located in a systematic manner. A location system was devised for all of the racking and storage locations through out the facility.

Tarr and Nevada Industry Excellence also looked into planning systems that Nth Degree Mobility could use for their customer order management, planning, purchasing and inventory. The recommendation, a small but complete package, pcMRP by Software Arts, allowed Nth Degree to implement a Master Production Schedule.

Nth Degree Mobility has been able to continue to grow its revenue through the introduction of new products to meet the demand for the existing product lines. With the warehouse location system and implementation of pcMRP, Nth Degree Mobility has been able to implement a cycle count program and inverse inventory accuracy. This locator system has also allowed warehouse staff to use picklists to pull materials for work orders and sales orders, further streamlining operations.

##### Results:

- \* Reduced inventory by 25 percent.
- \* Improved inventory turns by 93 percent.
- \* Introduced new products to the market.
- \* Achieved a more competitive and profitable position.

##### Testimonial:

[www.mep.nist.gov](http://www.mep.nist.gov)



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"Nevada Industry Excellence has been instrumental in helping us through our early stages of growth. They have been able to locate resources for us in addition to providing solid business solutions to enable us to continue to grow. I look forward to continued assistance from Nevada Industry Excellence as we take the business to the next level."

Jim Frens, President